

To Whom it May Concern:

Pursuant to the federal *Freedom of Information Act*, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request to obtain a “masked” subset of the data on which the EPA’s ENERGY STAR building model for Data Centers is based. This data set is described in the EPA document “ENERGY STAR Performance Ratings, Technical Methodology for Data Center” which is posted on the EPA website at

http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/evaluate_performance/data_center_tech_desc.pdf

In a previous FOIA request (EPA-HQ-2013-009192) I requested access to the entire dataset that underpins the EPA’s Data Center model. That request was denied and the denial was confirmed on appeal.

Here I am requesting, not the entire data set, but rather a very restricted portion of these data that would be appropriately masked to preserve confidentiality. What I am requesting constitutes a very small “spread sheet” of data corresponding to the 108 Data Centers that provided IT Energy data (UPS data) to the EPA for this model (see Table 1 on page 2 of the above document). For each of these 108 Data Centers I am requesting the following data:

1. DataCenter ID (some assigned number that would uniquely identify the Data Center to the EPA, but would mask its identity from the public to maintain confidentiality).
2. Total source Energy
3. IT Source Energy
4. Building weight (used in regression and subsequent Gamma Fit)
5. A flag that indicates which of these 108 Data Centers are “stand alone” and are therefore used in the final EPA Data Center model (61 of the 108 data centers).

I would expect that the data described above would be provided in a single spread sheet with 109 rows (one being a column heading) and 5 columns.

I would also request written explanation of the “weights” used for this model to understand how they came about. Such information has typically been supplied in the EPA Technical Methodology documents for each of its models – but is curiously omitted from the Data Center Technical Methodology document.

I would like to receive the information in electronic format. As I am making this request as a scholar and this information is of timely value, I would appreciate your communicating with me by telephone or email (both provided with contact information below), rather than by mail, if you have questions regarding this request.

Please note that I am NOT requesting a Fee Waiver.

In order to help to determine the particular fee category in which this request falls you should know that I am a professor of physics at an educational institution (Oberlin College) and I am making this request on behalf of my institution (Oberlin College) for a scholarly research

purpose and not for commercial use. This research is directed toward understanding the science that underpins the EPA's building ENERGY STAR scores. It is my expectation that this request should qualify for the Educational/Non-commercial scientific research fee category. Please inform me by email or telephone if that is not the case.

If there are any fees for searching or copying the records, please let me know before you fill my request. Or, please supply the records without informing me of the cost if the fees do not exceed \$50, which I agree to pay.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to assign this request any other fee category other than Educational/Non-commercial scientific research.

Thank you for your assistance.

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440-775-8333

Sincerely,

John H. Scofield
Prof. of Physics
Oberlin College